

NRCS NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Pheasant Fest 2008 Opens This Friday at Saint Paul RiverCentre

St. Paul, MN— The largest event in Pheasants Forever's history, National Pheasant Fest 2008 and 25th Anniversary Convention presented by Cabela's, will take place this Friday through Sunday at the Saint Paul RiverCentre in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Over 25,000 attendees are anticipated for the country's largest event for upland hunters, farmers, sport dog owners and wildlife habitat conservationists.

A Farm Bill Forum will be taking place on Saturday, January 19th, at 10:30 AM and Acting U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Chuck Conner; U.S. Senate Agriculture Chairman Tom Harkin (D-IA); and U.S. House Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson (D-MN) have been invited to participate. The Forum will be held in the upper ballroom level of the Saint Paul RiverCentre Seminar rooms 10 and 11. The Forum will be preceded by a press conference at 10 AM with a special wildlife conservation announcement from the United States Department of Agriculture.

High-Ranking Officials – In addition to Conner, Harkin, and Peterson, other high-ranking attendees throughout the National pheasant Fest weekend will include:

- Arlen Lancaster, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington, DC. Chief Lancaster will be making a special presentation as part of his keynote address at the Saturday night 25th Anniversary Banquet (7 PM).

Landowner Habitat Help Room – Through a one-on-one consultation, landowners will have the opportunity to learn about conservation and habitat options on their land available through federal, state and local programs.

For additional information about Pheasants Forever, please visit www.pheasantsforever.org. For more information about NRCS in Minnesota, please contact your local NRCS field office located in USDA Service Centers throughout the state of Minnesota.

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